

How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying promises to be a delightful show for SJC

By Mike Koscielny, News Editor

Preparations are underway for the upcoming musical *How to* Succeed in Business without Really Trying.

Written by Frank Lester, How to Succeed... is the story of Pierrepont Finch (freshman Wildlife Ecology major Matt Harmon), a window washer who, using a book by the same title, climbs the corporate ladder of success in the World Wide Wicket Corporation.

"This show is absolutely hilarious," Harmon said. "It's the

first chance I've had to do a fullout comedy and I get to explore comedy on stage."

On his climb, he finds love in Rosemary Pilkington (junior Music major Paige Popravak), a secretary smitten by Finch's wit and charm.

"This is a really easy show to enjoy," Popravak said. "It's something different and really funny, not your typical spring musical."

Sophomore History major Bailey Snider plays "Smitty" Smith, Pilkington's best friend who aids her in helping Finch with his ambitious rise to the top. "My character has been a lot of fun to play," Snider said. "She's sarcastic and cynical and has a secret that's just to die for."

Trouble meets Finch head on when he must battle Bud Frump (senior Theatre Arts and English major Cord Atkinson)' the nephew of the company's president J.B. Biggley (junior Political Science major Ryan Farrar).

"I consider this to be the biggest theater role of my life," Farrar said. "I want to share it with the world, or at least Saint Joe."

Assistant Professor of Communication and Theatre Arts,

John Rahe, is the director of the musical, along with stage managers Dani Klosowski, a senior Mass Communications major, and Heather Madden, a junior Psychology major. Junior Music major Lisa Guzman is the director of music for the show.

"I think the college crowd will enjoy the show," Madden said. "The music is super catchy and there are quite a few hilarious innuendoes."

Work on *How to Succeed...* began shortly after the previous play ended. Actors met several nights a week to get the choreography and songs down pat in time for the big opening

"There's a lot of talent here, so they can pull it off," said Rahe. His favorite scene is the song "Company Way." He encourages all students to come to the show.

The show is Thursday through Saturday, April 10, 11 and 12. Curtian is at 8 p.m. is free to all students.

"How to Succeed...is bursting with a plethora of new talent. This year's freshman class contains some real gems," sophomore English major Joe Stewart said. "The show itself is an excellent example of a great American musical."

AG Silver Brings Uplifting Style of Alternative Rock to SJC Students

By Michael Garrity, Staff Writer

The Halleck Center Ballroom was on fire the Thursday night of March 27. The Saint Joseph's College Student Union Board (SUB) brought in Midwest rock quartet AG Silver (pronounced "A. G. Silver") to the College for a special performance.

"I loved the band's use of percussion," senior Creative Writing and Political Science major Gabe Nichols. "It was especially unique when the guys began switching instruments and creating beauty out of musical chaos."

The Grand Rapids, Michigan band travelled down to Rensselaer, although they could not pronounce it, to start off a small tour that will take them through Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa.

"They were wonderful,"
junior Creative Writing major
Jessica Lamping said. "I would
love to see them come back in the

The band played an hourlong set that included many of

> their own eclectic songs as well as some unique covers of The Killers and the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air theme song.

"We had a great time, and all the SUB members were super helpful," said AG Silver drummer Craig Vanderwier, "It all came together really well and everyone was very enthusiastic. I was a little disappointed that the disco ball didn't turn on, though."

The band also took the time to tell some fun stories about sliding on the ice and buying a van from a drug dealer.

They also seemed pretty excited about Rensselaer and Rick's Pizza. They even wanted to go roller skating after their show.

"I thought their stories were sweet and unnecessarily endearing," Lamping said.

While the turnout may have been small, everyone who came enjoyed the show.

"It was really good," said freshman Music major Tony Rossi, "I could definitely hear some Radiohead and Killers in there"

"It rocked my socks off, literally. As you can see I'm not

wearing any," said sophomore Music major Katie Misiak.

If anyone is interested in hearing more AG Silver, they are available for internet streaming on MySpace, iLike, and their website, www.agsilver.com.

When asked if he'd enjoyed playing at Saint Joseph's College, bassist Aaron Cowan said, "Well it was a better turnout that we'd expected. Usually shows aren't promoted well, but these guys did a great job. This is definitely an interesting town, and I really liked that pizza place."



AG Silver guitarist Chris McKellar solos during one of the bands songs (above). The band finds their places again after one of their unique percussive interludes (below), while lead singer Jon Ornée displays his musical prowess, switching from piano to guitar on certian songs. (photos courtesy of Mike Koscielny).



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Saint Joseph's College SIFE Wins Grant From AIG **Insurance to Begin Credit Counseling Program**

By Kathleen Grady, Publications and Media Relations Intern

Saint Joseph's College has been a member of the international organization Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) since 1979, striving to educate students in matters of business and finance. The organization was recently awarded a grant for \$2,250 from AIG Insurance Company, and they already have big plans for the money: as part of a financial literacy project for this semester, SIFE will utilize the grant and AIG's "Credit Counseling Challenge" to start a credit counseling program on campus.

"We have just begun exploring the possibilities [for the grant money]," said SIFE advisor George Roy, Assistant Professor

of Accounting. "This program should benefit our students, especially our SIFE students, by teaching them more about the use of credit and applying this knowledge in credit counseling."

As part of the Credit Counseling Challenge, SIFE

president Lori Smith, a junior Political Science major, recently traveled to New York City for AIG's training conference with other SIFE members

ability to network, and

through traveling and

reaching out of the

community.

One of the most important ways of being successful in business is having the our club gives students the chance to do this

~Lori Smith

Smith spent three days in the city with her peers, sightseeing, sharing ideas to improve the SIFE team, and learning about financial

"The conference helped me learn new ways to reach out to my team members and have them

help me rebuild from the ground up," Smith said. "It was also very important to me to receive this information

about finances so I could pass it along to my peers and even my parents."

"I do not think that many students

know how important it is to keep

their credit scores up," Smith continued. "After college, we are all going to need our own homes, and we'll need to move on in life, but some may need financial help. If they do not know how to help themselves to begin with and maintain good credit, they will never be able to get loans in the future. Having this credit counseling program will help everyone immensely."

As SIFE's advisor, Roy is optimistic about future endeavors.

"I think we can build on our successes," he said. "News of events helps to spread the word about the team. Also, our Free Enterprise Day reaches out to area high schools. With more students and a larger budget, our SIFE 'good works' can multiply."

Smith believes in the importance of having a SIFE team for SJC.

"SIFE gives students a chance to be involved in the business side of the world," she said. "One of the most important ways of being successful in business is having the ability to network, and our club gives students the chance to do this through traveling and reaching out to the community."

While involving community members and high schools in several activities, SIFE also competes against other teams both in the Chicago area and nationally.

Currently, the organization is working on four projects for regional competition in Chicago next month in the areas of financial literacy, business ethics, entrepreneurship, and success skills. SIFE will also be collaborating with the College's Criminal Justice Club to present an Identity Theft seminar this

RCIA Classes at SJC Looking to Welcome New Members into the Catholic Faith

from across the country.

By Sam Duffey, Staff

Writer
The Right of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the process by which willing adults are sequentially immersed into the Roman Catholic faith. The step by step process helps to promptly instruct the inquirer without losing any of the reverence that is attributed to the Roman Catholic Church.

"It's a good way of bringing new people into the Church,' Brother Tim McFarland said.

The RCIA process closely resembles that of the early Church, in which all three sacraments, baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist, were given at one time, commonly known as the Combined Right. It also closely resembles that of the Orthodox Church which performs the Combined Right around the time when most Roman Catholic babies receive the sacrament of

In 1972 Pope Paul VI heralded the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults and in 1986 The USA Bishops approved United States additions to the OCIA and a national plan of actualization. In 1988 the RCIA finally became imperative in the

United States of America for anyone wanting to become a member of the Roman Catholic

The period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate is the first act of the catechumen to learn more about their future religion. These sessions inform the catechumen on basic information about the Faith.

It is not obligated that the catechumen attend these meetings, they simply serve as a way for them to become involved in their new faith.

The mandatory process after the period of Evangelization and Precatechumanate is a long and arduous one, concocted to not only properly initiate new members into the Church but as well to test the sincerity of any potential parishioner. Anyone dedicated enough to put forth the time and effort necessary to fulfill these steps must be sincere in the love of Jesus Christ.

This year, four SJC students are attempting to fulfill their ambitions of becoming members of the Roman Catholic Church, senior Religion and Philosophy major Roger Spitler, junior Mass Communications major Kaylee Hofmeister, sophomore English major Maggie Hall and freshman

Criminal Justice major Tony Dyer. Resoluteness is definitely necessary to undertake such an arduous task during the busiest time of the year for students, and these students have proven to have more than enough.

"We all take part in the class," Hall said. "And I'm glad I am in there because it feels like the right thing to do."

On April 27th the final step in the RCIA process is taking place in the Saint Joseph's College church. "Regular mass will be taking place, so anyone planning on attending 11 o'clock that day is more than welcome to attend", Father Tim McFarland

"When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." - Luke 3:21-22

"Have no fear of moving into the unknown. Simply step out fearlessly knowing that I am with you, therefore no harm can befall you; all is very, very well. Do this in complete faith and confidence."- Pope John Paul II

An Afternoon for Making Music

By Jennifer Ruff, Staff Writer

On Sunday March 30th, music reverberated from the Halleck Student Center Ballroom as the College Band performed their annual spring concert. The concert itself was divided into three separate performances, the wind ensemble, jazz band, and symphonic band each performed.

The wind ensemble was under the direction of Associate Professor of Music, Robb Thiel. The students started the afternoon off in a patriotic way with the "Star Spangled Banner." Thiel then introduced himself to the audience and explained the one number that was to be played by the ensemble, which was titled "Ghost Train Triptych." The song consisted of three movements: "the ride," "at the station," and "motive revolution." The unique sounds and rhythms made this tune enjoyable to play as well as pleasing to listen to.

"Ghost Train' was outstanding. Everyone sounded great and looked fabulous," expressed sophomore Psychology major Tarren Huddleston.

"Ghost Train was a lot of fun to perform making the train sounds and such," stated sophomore music education major Jackie Klear.

The next to entertain was the jazz band, consisting of SJC students and faculty. This band was under the direction of Assistant Professor of Music Paul Geraci.

When asked for his opinion of this year's jazz band he replied "This is the finest jazz band that St. Joseph's College has had for many years, if not ever."

The band performed three numbers and through those performances allowed all of the members to improvise a solo. Improvising is the ability to make up a tune on the spot and is

something that is covered heavily in jazz band. After the show it was clear, even to the band members, that they had lived up to Geraci's expectations.

Sophomore, music education major Ben Gilsdorf said, "It went really well especially considering that this was the first time we have played together in a couple weeks.'

The final band to please the audience was the symphonic band which consists of students from a wide variety of disciplines and includes students from all over campus. This band was directed by senior Music major Elizabeth DeMay. Their first piece took the spectators back in time by providing "Eighties Flashback." It included Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and "Eye of the Tiger." The next song was "the theme from Schindler's List," which featured a violin solo from freshman Music Mallory Julian.

Before the final song, Thiel took the time to recognize the senior band members and thank them for all their hard work in the band program. He then explained that he had two awards to announce. The first was for the outstanding first year band member. The student was chosen by band and was based on the student's musicianship and attendance. The winner was freshman Mathematics and English major Megan Fairchild. The next award was for the outstanding senior band member. The winner of this award was also voted on by the band and was Clayton Henry.

Once the final song concluded, there was punch and cookies available for the audience members and it was obvious that the audience liked what they heard.

"It was definitely the best band concert I've seen so far at this college." stated sophomore Music major Sarah Wright.

Upcoming Campus Events

- Sunday, April 6 at 4:00 p.m.: Jazz Concert in the SJC Theatre
- Wednesday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m.: 2008 Housing Selection in the Halleck Center
- Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 10-12 at 8:00 p.m.: The Colombian Players present How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying in the SJC Theatre

March 20, 2008 The Computer Science Position

By Brian Capouch, Assistant Professor of Computer Science

The Computer Science department at Saint Joe has found itself, in common with most of its sister institutions, facing a precipitous drop in enrollment that began with the collapse of the dot-com bubble in the late 90's. In general, liberal arts programs have been more affected than those in the more technically-oriented schools.

One article I read recently, which was the result of a conference on the "enrollment crisis" in the field, noted that the number of students currently studying computer science in American colleges and universities was far below the "replacement level" needed in the near future, as the Baby Boomers head into their retirement years.

Most of the things I found written about the situation mentioned that the other sciences—particularly math and physics—have also been affected by an enrollment drop.

I hope we could justify replacing Dave DeLauro for a number of reasons:

We have a fair number of freshman and sophomore students. The second-level course for our majors and minors, CMPII2, has enrollment of ten students right now. Interestingly, this is a higher enrollment than we had last semester in the first class in the sequence. This is something that has never happened during my tenure here.

I also understand that we are still a ways from "the bottom of the barrel" in terms of our rank compared to other so-called under-enrolled departments.

Demographic trends in the field, as mentioned above, are definitely positive for graduates in this area in the future. One discussion I found stated that the biggest upcoming threat in the medium term is that there won't be enough graduates to fill the many positions expected to come available, and that this may force companies into outsourcing those positions overseas even though they would prefer to keep the jobs here. A resultant trend is for salaries to increase in this area.

Our graduates have succeeded quite well in the job market, and that includes both recent graduates and those from earlier years. Very few of our graduates left the field following the jobs collapse that accompanied the bust. Our curriculum has stayed relevant and the things we most stress-new media and network management, are in relatively high demand.

Members of the Computer Science department in general have been constant and energetic contributors to the Core program, which I hope has value to the institution beyond our contributions in our subjectmatter area. Our students are also heavily involved in the operation of the computer labs,



Small technology. Large opportunities. Can we really let that slip away? I think not sir, I think not. (Photo courtesy of http://updatecenter.britannica.com/eb/ image?binaryId=93416&rendTypeId=4)

help other community members when they encounter technological problems, and in many cases have gone on to spend parts of their careers in service to the College, at a fair financial "lost opportunity cost" to themselves.

The key to the solution of our enrollment situation, in my opinion, is for us to attempt to better reach recruits as part of the admissions effort. For a variety of reasons we have not garnered much traction in that arena, despite what I would consider to be bright prospects for our students in the job market.

I hope the Cabinet will favorably consider our hiring someone to replace Mr. DeLauro.

The Self-Destructing Democrats

By Jakob Teska, Political Correspondant

Democrats. You say you want a revolution? Well, you know, we all want to change the world. You tell me it's the institution! Well, you know... You're right! It is the power-hungry, hypocritical Democratic institution that will prevent the "change" you are all hoping for to come about. It is the evil of one Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton that will cause the selfdestruction of your party this

Obama has pulled out as the Democratic primary front-runner with more states and delegates won. You think it matters? Think again. Hillary will continue to win delegates here and there and will refuse to concede defeat. Obama's lead will not grow to be insurmountable for the Clinton Camp. See, the Clintons (yes plural) are relying on all of their friends who are super-delegates to get her the party's nomination. Many of these "super-delegates" (who don't seem so super to me) have already come out in support of Senator Clinton saying that they will vote for her come convention time, no matter what their constituents think.

There are 796 super-delegates. Most of these delegates stand to gain much more from voting for the Clinton Political Machine than they do from voting for the young, African-American Senator from Illinois. You thought the general election of 2000 was bad? With the recounts and Supreme Court ruling. Just you wait, you silly little Dems. Your party will spiral into utter chaos when Obama technically wins the primary process but Hillary gets the nomination as a result of these so-called "superdelegates".

Why don't you people get it? Your party's leaders do not care about this country! They do not care about you! They may make it seem so with their fantastically



of http://www.familycourtchronicles .com/philosophy/superhero/superhero

unreliable rhetoric, but all they care about is power. Do you actually think these people want to provide nation-wide health care, take away our second amendment rights, increase social welfare programs etc. because they want to help you and keep you safe? No! Oh no! These policy brain farts are designed to expand the federal government's authority and hand absolute power to the far leftwingers. Our country's government is slowly shifting to a social dictatorship like that of Venezuela, or if Hillary has her way, a one-world order with her as its Marxist head.

You Democrats and "independent" voters always do this. You like what the Republicans are doing in the federal government for about eight years, then decide that they aren't providing you with enough of what you want and go wild supporting some unpatriotic, farleft nut jobs. You need to understand that what is best for this country is not always pleasant. It doesn't always mean that the government will provide for your every need. It doesn't always mean that you are free to do what you want without consequence. What is best for this country is traditional values and conservative (not always republican) control! You Democrats might as well just not vote this time around and watch your party go down in flames. Believe me, I will be enjoying every second of it!



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From the Backyard to Wrigley Field

By Brent J Houlding, Opinion Editor

Another month has come, and with it, another assuredly enticing article by yours truly. What's on tap this week? The usual diatribes regarding sports and weather will of course be included, but also a chance for insight into a strange clash of backyard wrestling and theatrics. How could you resist? Let's go

Let us begin with weather. Any faithful reader of the Opinion page (so, you know, all three of you) will note that I have been ranting about the wackiness of nature all year long. At last, however, it seems to be settling down. Sure the environment is being nasty, brutish, and, well...wet, but that's just Indiana weather. And at least the precipitation is all seasonally appropriate. Here's to hoping it stays that way.

Ah, so, sports. By the time you read this, Opening Day for my Chicago Cubs will have come and gone. They open with a potentially critical series against the Milwaukee Brewers, setting the stage for the probably battle for NL Central dominance. Look for the Cubs to eke it out in a close one, both in this opening series and the season as a whole. I expect them to join division winning New York Mets (Santana Power!) and Los Angeles Dodgers (although the NL West is a crapshoot) and wildcard Philadelphia Phillies. The AL will be filled out by the Los



Two words: Go Cubs! (Photo come to you from http://www.chicagotypewriter.net/ wp-content/uploads/2007/09/ chicago_cubs_logo.png)

Angeles Angels of Anaheim, Boston Red Sox, Cleveland Indians, and the Wild-Card of Detroit Tigers. If there's any justice in the world at all, it will be Cubs over Indians in six games, ending 100 years of torment. So folks, lets all root root, root for the Cubbies and try our best not to say that four letter word Cubs fans all hate to hear. You know, the one that starts with 'g' and rhymes with boat. *Shudder*

And now, real quick, brackets. I don't know about the rest of you, but I got absolutely decimated. My only salvation will be if Memphis manages to win it all in the end as I predicted. As for the rest of my Final Four...let's just say Wisconsin, Louisville, and Duke didn't do it for me. Oy.

Now for the point of the article I know you've all been waiting for. "BJ" you're saying from wherever you're sitting, "Tell us more of this wrestling/theater

hybrid you know of. We're on pins and needles here!" Fear not, for this Friday (April 4) at 8 p.m. in the SJC Theater, you can see exactly what I mean for absolutely no cost to you at all. For my senior seminar (the Theatre capstone class) project I chose to do a one-man show. The show I'm doing? "Yard Wars" by Jon Dorf. It chronicles the trials and tribulations of high-schoolers founding the "Cannibal Wrestling Federation" from the inception to the events of their first "Pay-Per-View". There are many characters, but I'll be attempting to play them all. The show only lasts an hour, but its full of both drama and comedy. Be there.

And while you're supporting SIC Theater, how about attending "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" on April 10, 11, and 12? Also at 8 o'clock in the theater, this musical is sure to please. As always, admission is free for SJC students and faculty, so what reason do you have not to be there?

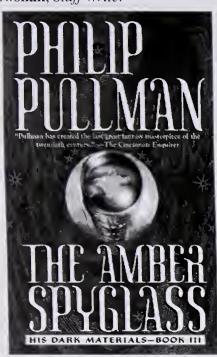


Big angry wrestler says support SJC theater! (Thanks Google Images)

EATURES

An Epic Conclusion in *The Amber Spyglass*

By Erika Rowshan, Staff Writer



(Photo courtesy of http://static.flickr.com/39/75059973_c6623c52c0_o.jpg)

Continuing my three part series on Phillip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy, I will now tell all of my ever faithful readers about *The Amber Spyglass*.

In Spyglass, we are faced with the many different storylines that have been occurring throughout The Golden Compass and The Subtle Knife finally weaving and intermixing together to create quite an enthralling book. Although Pullman may have had much difficulty actually accomplishing putting all of the mysteries and enigmas of the past books together, he had no trouble whatsoever in creating a wonderful conclusion to this trilogy.

At the beginning of the novel, Will must stage a desperate rescue attempt in order to save Lyra and Pan from being captured by the Church (who most definitely wishes to take Lyra out). Lyra is being held by the enigmatic and interesting character of Mrs. Coulter, who is still quite a confusing character in that one cannot tell whether she is good or bad. Will works with two lower-level angels, and in a dramatic scene in which the subtle knife actually ends up breaking, eventually is able to rescue Lyra and Pan.

From the point in which Lyra is rescued all the way up to the end of the book, the action never stops much at all. Lyra, Will, and Pan must journey to different worlds (some of which are quite terrifying) and they finally must journey to a world in which not many living people would wish to go, the world of the dead. The section of the book when Lyra and Will are traversing the world of the dead was quite eerie, and the world itself made me think of the Hades of Greek mythology. Pullman most definitely does not paint a rosy picture of the world of the dead and, in fact, states that even martyrs and men and women of faith are trapped in this miserable underworld that is guarded by angry harpies and dreary darkness.

The third book of the series also helps to show a bit more of the war that is going on between Lord Asriel (a man from previous books) and the imperialistic Church of the books. This section is where I am sure many a person got a bit offended due to the nature of waging a war on religion and yet, I still did not find it to be quite as offensive as many have claimed it to be. My stance on this controversial issue is that Pullman was attempting to make a point about the state of some religions and how said religions wish to use the words and teachings of God (in a way) in order to better themselves and create rules for the masses to follow. Although this still could be viewed in a controversial light, it could also be viewed as a lesson of sorts. Once again, I suppose that it is up to the reader's personal interpretation to decide what he or she thinks.

The book concludes in one of the more beautiful and heartbreaking scenarios that I remember reading in recent memory. In this scene, Will and Lyra must make a choice that will affect them for the rest of their lives. I truly found the ending of the series to be poignant and quiet in comparison to the rest of the series. And yet, I do not mind a quiet ending to such a controversial and stunning series.

I highly recommend picking up the entire *His Dark Materials* series and reading it at some point in time. Whether you are interested in a great storyline, wonderful characters, or simply the controversy of the subject matter itself, I do not think anyone with an open mind and a willingness to see things differently will be disappointed! I give The Amber Spyglass and the entire His Dark Materials trilogy:



Wristcutters Surprisingly Does Not Inspire Suicide

By Gabriele Nichols, Features Editor



(Photo Courtesy of http:// cereality.files.wordpress.com/2007/10/ wristcutters.jpg)

Suicide is a topic that does not necessarily call for a comedy to be written around it, or a love story. Yet Wristcutters; A Love Story definitely advertises itself as something romantic, and the proceedings are definitely not serious. The movie simply is one of the darkest, yet ultimately most positive, comedies to appear in a long time.

Based on a short story called "Kneller's Happy Camp," Wristcutters is set in the afterlife of Zia (Patrick Fugit), a young man who slits his wrist in retaliation at his girlfriend. He wakes up in something close to Dante's limbo, except for

suicides, where everyone who has "offed" themselves is forever trapped in a slightly more depressing and unfulfilling life. The place also resembles Hunter Thompson's vision of Hell, Phoenix, Arizona, and the Talking Heads' version of Heaven, where nothing much ever happens.

Zia's odyssey commences when he discovers his girlfriend has shuffled herself off the mortal coil as well. Desperate to find her, he drags along his close friend Eugene (Shea Whigham), a Russian rocker, and along the way picks up rebellious Mikal (Shannyn Sossamon), who claims she was mistakenly dropped in the wrong section of the afterlife.

They along endlessly desolate highways hoping to find something interesting, and eventually do find it at a place of meaningless miracles run by Kneller (Tom Waits). It should be noted that one of Tom Waits' songs is used to score Zia's suicide, which just further proves how strange this movie really gets. Saying more of what people find would ruin the

surprises, but in the

end they meet lots of

interesting people, and methods of death, along the way and ultimately, maybe, some weird form of love.

The entire film is shot in a low-key style that gives it the feel of a nice indie road trip, just one set in some form of afterlife. The acting is understated or just deliberately strange enough to fit into the landscape, except a slightly over-the-top appearance by Will Arnett. Further, the little details of the *Wristcutters*' world are wonderfully subtle, like the fact that nobody can or is allowed to smile, which isn't that noticeable until someone actually mentions the fact.

Ultimately, the movie ends up with a life-affirming bent, and in the end, you feel committed to characters that now realize what they gave up on in life. It's ultimately a beautifully ugly film, and worth watching for even those people who don't find wriscutting an entertaining sounding idea.



(Photo courtesy of http://i205.photobucket.com/albums/

Brawl Brings Kooky Chaos to the Wii

By Gabriele Nichols, $Features\ Editor$

Nintendo's Wii console has been one of the most unexpected success stories in the video game industry. It's revolutionary motion technology and casual gamer focus seemed to be a last gasp attempt to save the decaying Nintendo brand. In fact, it has managed to consistently sell out across the world, making the little system a must have item over a year after its launch.

What is ironic then is that the most anticipated game for the Wii, Super Smash Brothers Brawl, is also a game that uses almost none of the consoles motion sensing abilities. Instead, the SSBB focuses on the developing the frantic gameplay of the previous iterations of the series, thus perfecting an experience that was already unique and delightful.

For those that have not encountered the series, Super Smash Brothers is a fighting game that faces a huge roster of Nintendo characters against each other. These characters, ranging from old favorites like Mario to relative unknowns like the Ice Climbers, fight in two to four person contests where opponents are ko'ed only if they are knocked off the screen. As fights continue, random items fall from the sky, special abilities are unleashed, and sometimes even

the stage itself fights back. As such, it makes for some of the most insane gameplay ever seen on a console.

Brawl continues the family friendly fun of the series by adding the obligatory bunch of new characters, stages, and items. There are even more unlockable items than ever, some requiring ludicrous amounts of game time to open up. Further, the game introduces "Final Smashes," character specific mega-attacks that usually destroy any opponents that get in the way.

Being on the least powerful of the current generation of game systems, *Brawl's* visuals are only a slight upgrade from *Melee* on the Gamecube. This is not entirely noticeable because the action is often too fast to notice graphical minutiae, and further, the cartoonish world depicted in *Brawl* is almost perfect as is. As the Wii is proving more and more, amazing graphics do not make a great game.

The biggest new addition is the single player mode called The Subspace Emissary. This replaces the still available "Classic" mode, where a series of challenges and fights lead to a single end-boss. Subspace Emissary adds a side-scrolling experience using the same controls as the standard fights.

This proves a nice addition, especially since nothing else in the game suffered, but it ultimately proves somewhat frustrating and under-developed.

The story is especially disappointing, as it never becomes clear what happens beyond something attacking everybody and the world needing defending. Nintendo makes games with great, epic stories, such as the Metroid and Zelda series, and such a lazy attempt at narrative seems out of character.

In the end, the most important part of the game remains the amazing multi-player battles. *Brawl* remains possibly the greatest party videogame ever, a fun and exciting experience that is accessible to any level of player while not negating the advantages of experience. The controls provide options for every type of player and controller, making it easy to find the four necessary for a complete experience.

Super Smash Brothers Brawl is not the greatest game ever based on story, graphics, or ambitious innovation, but it may be in the running for most fun ever. All ages and types of players can find something to like, even if it's just the simple joy of smashing a Pokemon in the face with a frying pan.

New Releases Make March Mad with Music

By Gabriele Nichols and Michael Koscielny, Features Editor and News Editor

2008 is proving to be an exciting year to be a music fan of any type. New albums by great artists both new and old are coming out every week, making the influx of tunes almost overwhelming. The Raconteurs, Gnarls Barkley, Panic at the Disco, The Hush Sound, and The Matches have all released music in the month of March alone. In an attempt to help the College's music lovers, two editors and headphone obsessives have combined to guide readers through some of these new releases. March Madness doesn't just apply to basketball, but enjoy the basketball rating scale anyway.

Gabe's Critical View:

The Matches preceded the release of their new album with constant comments about how they're a band with hope. Their last album, Decomposer, lived up to its title with dark lyrics and songs. Hope provides a bright counterpoint to the darkness, even though it doesn't always prove as unique.

The band's sunny disposition is evident on songs like "Wake up the Son," with bouncy instrumentation and lighthearted vocals. It's an enjoyable feel that permeates most of the proceedings, though the positivity can become slightly cloying. Nearly half the songs are obsessed with the morning and the

The Hush Sound is

another band coming from

the Chicago music factory

that seems to have started

up in recent years. Unlike

Fall Out Boy, they have not

their more famous peers

found the same breakout

success and national

recognition. That's

unfortunate, as their a

alternative landscape.

upon their sound by

emphasizing the band's

dominated scene, singer

Greta Salpeter. She takes

over lead vocals on most

tracks, with her male

their interplay was a

in the end helps

counterpoint receiving

much less play time. It's

somewhat unfortunate, as

highlight of Like Vines, but

leading weapon in the male

unique band in the current

Goodbye Blues expands

sun. The band must have forgotten how much most people hate mornings.

As a whole, A Band in Hope seems somewhat disjointed, as songs suddenly break into Queen style theatrics ("Darkness Rising") and other style shifts. Shawn Harris' voice is still an indescribable warble, and the songs range across all styles of rock while remaining rooted in the pop-punk realm. Most of this somehow manages to hold together, leaving an album that is decidedly weird but exciting. A Band in Hope is another great effort that defies classification.

Standout Tracks: "Yankee in a Chip Shop" and "Wake the Sun"

differentiate The Hush

Sound from the pack of

Blues also takes the

band further into a fusion of pop sounds and indie-

rock sensibilities, creating

Numbers without the retro

baggage. Greta's voice is

sweet and soulful, and most

of the songs are bright and

annoying. The lyrics aren't

always extremely witty or

being clichéd. Altogether,

The Hush Sound is a band

could love, which isn't an

insult, but rather telling of

original, but they avoid

that even your mother

their universal appeal.

fast without becoming

a sound like The Magic

young bands.

(Photo courtesy of http://ecx.images-amazon.com/images/I/51BRZSdcQPL._SS500_.jpg)

Gabe's Rating:



Mike's Rating:



The Matches- A Band in Hope

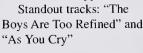


The Hush Sound- Goodbye Blues



Gabe's Rating:

Mike's Rating:



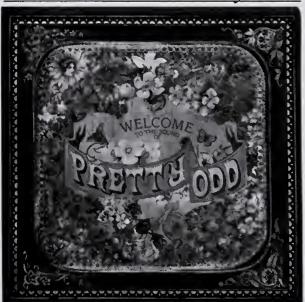
Oh, Panic at the Disco, where have you gone? Just looking at the album artwork and photos makes it apparent that their new sick 60's obsession hasn't diminished, and the music does not prove otherwise.

This is not to say that the album is terrible, or even bad. Pretty. Odd. shows that the band has done its homework well. Most of the songs sound like lost hits from the 60s, with a great psychedelic vibe. Unfortunately, Panic has not absorbed The Beatles lyrics writing ability, thus resulting in boring statements about the moon and meaningless abstractions. Further, the song titles are no longer ridiculously long and pretentious, which may or may not be a bad thing.

Cheeriness and a laidback attitude permeate the entire album, which seems to be a trend. However, Panic still have an attitude of some sort, with the first track, "We're So Starving," actively insulting fans wanting the band's old style. However, this reinvention proves some especially interesting moments, strikingly so on "Behind the Sea," where Ryan Ross takes over lead vocals and sounds surprisingly like Modest Mouse. The new direction works for now, but let's hope they don't find any old Motley Crue records.

Standout Tracks: "Pas De Cheval," "Behind the Sea"

Panic at the Disco- Pretty. Odd.



(Photo courtesy of http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/0/09/PatD_-_Pretty._Odd..jpg)





Mike's Critical Views:

In the most recent issue of AP Magazine, Matches lead singer Shawn Harris discussed the band's disillusionment after their previous album. Decomposer (one of my favorite albums ever), did not do as well as the band expected and that, for the Matches, A Band in Hope is just that, a new hope for the band.

Being the album I was most hopeful for, my personal expectations were incredibly high. This disc is considerably more lighthearted than Decomposer in sound and lyric, staying true to what Harris said about the album. Some of the interesting tics that made Decomposer such a great album can be heard, but in a different context.

Hope teeters on the realm of concept album with the morning motif.

The Matches continue to develop a unique sound all their own and for that, they should be applauded. As their songs span this musical spectrum of genres, Harris' lyrics stand out in every track. "Maybe a saint is just a dead prick with a good publicist," is one prime example of Harris' delightfully clever and thought-provoking style. Unfortunately, a couple of the tracks require commitment to appreciate; they are not immediately appealing.

Standout tracks: "Yankees in a Chip Shop" and "If I Were You"

One huge appeal the Hush Sound has always had is their coupled vocals of Greta Salpeter and Bob Morris. Goodbye Blues takes advantage of this, but displays very little growth for the Hush Sound as a band.

The band has always had a poppy/indie feel to their sound, but Blues also develops a folk sound to most of their delightfully uppity songs. The Hush Sound has always seemed to have a formula to their albums, and Blues is no exception. Salpeter uses her gorgeous voice to beautify at least one piano ballad, while Morris will have one bluesy guitar song. There's always a ratio of Morris songs to Salpeter songs, with their standout tracks almost always coming from

the two's partnership in song.

Blues' Morris/Salpeter ratio seemed a little less balanced. Salpeter dons a sultrier, Fiona Apple-like, vocal range for more tracks than necessary, dominating this album more than either of the Hush Sound's previous efforts. However, there are more "up-beat" tracks on Blues than any other Hush Sound record. One great improvement, the pacing of this record is far superior to either of the other records, without awkward walls or transitions between the "toe-tapers" and ballads.

Standout tracks: "Not Your Concern" and "Hospital Bed Crawl"

The band formerly known as Panic! at the Disco's second album, Pretty. Odd. has drawn more Beatles comparisons than Across the Universe. That aside, this effort from the band is long-awaited as their original plans for a follow-up album were scrapped mid-2007.

Pretty. Odd. is a departure from the original sound that made A Fever You Can't Sweat Out a platinum record. The band has traded loaded lyrics and dance beats for organic harmonies and heavy instrumentals. Honestly, Panic! and Panic are two completely different bands.

The instrumental arrangements on Pretty. Odd. are something to be admired; they are beautiful. But usually, the tracks that

are musically exciting are lyrically sour; and viceversa, tracks that are more generic musically have better lyrics. The album lacks any tracks that truly stand-out as truly excellent.

Something new in Panic's equation is serious vocal contributions from guitarist Ryan Ross. Previously, Ross only provided only minimal backup vocals to a few songs. In Pretty. Odd., his voice provides a variation that leaves something to be desired. Almost meek most of the time, it is nice to hear the difference, if it could only be stronger.

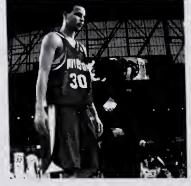
Standout Tracks: "That Green Gentlemen (Things Have Changed)" and "From the Mountain in the Middle of Cabins"

Rooting For the Little Guys

By David Spencer '09, Staff Wrtier

Stephen Curry is the hot-shot shooting guard of the Davidson College Wildcats, and he is one of the NCAA Basketball Tournament's new stars. On March 23, 2008, Davidson matched up with the number-two seeded Georgetown University. Georgetown entered the game as a heavy favorite after an appearance in the Final Four in 2007 and holding a number eight national ranking. Despite being down by 17 points early in the second half, Davidson and Curry marched back. Curry scored 25 points in the final 14 minutes including five free throws to ice the game to push Davidson to a 74 to 70 win and onto the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1969. Curry ended up with 30 points and has garnered even more praise across the nation with his leadership qualities and his ability to "make it rain" with a beautiful jump shot.

Curry, who previously attended Charlotte Christian School, is the son of former NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry and former Virginia Tech volleyball standout Sonya Curry. Curry attended Charlotte Christian School in Charlotte, North Carolina and is the school's all-time leading scorer with over 1400 points. At Charlotte Christian School, Curry was named all-state, all-conference, and team MVP while leading his team to three conference titles and three state playoff appearances. He finished his senior season by shooting over 48% from three point range. Although Curry had success in high school, he went virtually unnoticed from major Atlantic Coast Conference schools. Most ACC schools thought Curry couldn't handle the physical nature of ACC basketball, so they passed on him. Since Curry's father played for Virginia Tech and is in their Hall of Fame, Curry wanted to play for the Hokies, but the Hokies only offered him to walk-on. Besides



that, Curry only had offers from Davidson College, Virginia Commonwealth, and Winthrop. Curry chose Davidson College, a school who had not won an NCAA Tournament game since 1969, when coaching legend Lefty Driesell led them to the Elite Eight, losing to the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Davidson College is a private liberal arts college for 1,700 students in Davidson, North Carolina. Not much dissimilar from SJC, it was founded with religious affiliation and after many years of being a strict Presbyterian college, it has in recent years opened up to wider religious acceptance. This tiny school has had only five NCAA

tournament wins in its entire history, and the upset over Georgetown shocked the nation, not to mention Georgetown players. Like New England Patriots' players on the verge of retirement after their Super Bowl loss a few months ago to the New York Giants, the Davidson upset was a heartbreaking end for Georgetown's four seniors: Roy Hibbert, Jonathan Wallace, Tyler Crawford and Patrick Ewing Jr., whose careers coincided with a renaissance in Georgetown basketball.

The NCAA tournament has become a spectacle unlike any other, and the large and unpredictable nature of the field of participants sets up many possibilities for major upsets every year. The Davidson victory was the most significant upset of the first week of games, but it remains to be seen if the team will advance further. As of the time of this writing, Davidson is prepping to play the number three seeded Wisconsin. Whether

Davidson advances or not, its hard not to root for the teams which have cast-off and nonrecruited players like Stephen Curry, and with the upset in this year's Super Bowl and the NCAA tournament underway, 2008 might be the year of the upsets. Anything can happen; that's why they play the game.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Stephen Curry and Davidson took care of business against Wisconsin last Friday, prevailing 73-56. Curry scored 33 points and locked down his defender, Michael Flowers, an All-Big Ten selection. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, their magical run ended this past Sunday, as they fell to Kansas 57-59, in arguably one of the most exciting game of the NCAA

tournament Curry (30) walks off the court dejectedly after losing a 59 57 heartbreaker to Kansas in the Midwest Regional Final. (Image extrapolated from http:// www.canada.com/topics/sports/ story.html?id=1611af88-cac7-4842b5be-b6a3dbfbca5d&k=73478.)



How did your bracket turn out? (Photo from http://cbs.sportsline.com/collegebasketball/mayhem/brackets/viewable_men.)

Softball Begins GLVC Play

By Andrew Costello '08, Sports Editor



baseball team, most of the campus seems to be congregating at the northerly diamond adjacent to the Mike Vallone/Class of 1960 Track and Field complex. Although Gil Hodges field has a certain level of mystique and excitement attached to it, one needs only to walk a few hundred feet past Halleck to witness the softball team tearing up the field at the softball diamond.

The 2008 softball campaign looks to be an interesting one. With the loss of great senior leadership in Nicole Fetla and Shelly Hammons last season, the Pumas are looking to find their identity in a lineup consisting mostly of underclassmen. Despite the skewed distribution of age in the lineup, the Pumas have the experience necessary to pull off a run in the GLVC. Seniors Danielle Austin (OF), Ashley Reed (C), and Jessica Privett (P/1B) look to guide the Pumas to the postseason for the third consecutive year. The team also looks to rely on experienced role players like first baseman Stephanie Kickels, outfielder Stephanie Madsen, pitcher Sara Somogyi, and infielder/utility hitter Cheryl Zakowski, all juniors. The underclassmen seem to contribute their own intensity and ambition to the mix, as Kara Kristoff (3B), Jessica Lynch (IF),

and Holly Roadruck (P) were critical components of a team that won a school-record 26 games last season. New additions like freshmen Jasmine Moffitt (C), Stephenie Hash (P), and Nicole Costello (IF) will undoubtedly add depth to the lineup.

Sitting at 10 - 13 on the season, the Pumas' combination of youth and talent proves to be better than their aforementioned record may imply. This past weekend, the Lady Pumas opened up Great Lakes Valley Conference play by going 2-2 against Missouri-foes Drury and Rockhurst.

Saturday's twin bill against the Panthers of Drury University saw offensive production and the resiliency of the Pumas in lategame situations. Game one saw the Pumas jump out to a 11-4 lead at one point, with clutch hits coming from Reed, Madsen, Costello, and Zakowski, while Sara Somogyi earned the



complete-game win. Game two saw the Pumas rally late to cut a Panther lead to 6-5 in the top of the seventh, but Drury's closer were able to stifle any further effort of a comeback. Costello went 2 for 4, while Ashley Reed knocked out her second homer of the day.

The Sunday double-header against Rockhurst saw the Pumas split contests against the Hawks, losing 2-3 and winning 5-1 respectively. Solid offensive efforts by Zakowski (2 for 3), Kristoff (2 RBI, 1 run), Lynch (2 for 4) and Jasmine Moffit (2 for

4) kept the Pumas at .500 early on in the season. Somogyi got the loss (7-8) in game one, while Jessie Privett picked up the complete-game two win, and is now 3-3 on the season.

SJC hosted Southern Indiana on Wednesday. Game results were not released before press time.

The Pumas host six games this weekend and look to draw off the enthusiasm of apartment dwellers and members of the community. SJC faces Calumet College today at 3 and 5 p.m., SIU Edwardsville on Saturday at 12 and 2 p.m., and closes the weekend with games against Quincy at 12 and 2 p.m.

TOP (Left): Stephanie Kickels (14), Kara Kristoff (20), and several other others get motivated. ABOVE: Pitcher Sara Somogyi set a Division II record with a 21-strikeout

game last year. (Photos by Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.; All statistics courtesy of SJC Sports Information.)



Baseball Continues Success, Sweeps Flyers

By Chase Sonen '08, Staff Writer



The Saint Joseph's College baseball team has continued its hot play as Great Lakes Valley Conference action has just begun. The Pumas (23-4) lead the GLVC East division at 11-1 by two games over second place Bellarmine University. While the switch from wood to aluminum bats this year helped add a little pop, the Pumas have been winning based on their old principles, pitching and defense. Coming into this week, the Pumas lead Division II baseball in fielding percentage (.978) and were fifth in the nation in ERA

Individually, the Pumas have been led by a great mixture of upperclassman and some up and coming underclassman. Pre-Season All-American Matt Wille, is hitting .393 with a team high 11 stolen bases. Nick Eyer has been a pleasent surprise this season hitting .364 with 11 RBI's in only nine starts thus far. Tom Zurliene has manned second base all season for the Pumas, and is hitting .363, while Mike"Deuce"



Staehle is hitting .357 with a .440 on base percentage. Matt Reimer is hitting .337 with a team high three triples on the season. Mike "Man-Child" Pericht is hitting .322 with six home runs and 31 RBI in 27 games. Scott Sieder is hitting .269 with eight stolen bases and Pat Luehring is hitting .254 with two home runs. As a team the Pumas are hitting .313 and average 6.55 runs a game.

The pitching staff (a.k.a "Dream Team") is lead by another great mix of old and new pitchers. Chris Chojnowski is 4-0 with a .75 ERA on the season. He has struck out 23 in 24 innings. Gord Gateman is 3-1 with a 3.53 ERA, while Blaine Cravens is 4-0 with a 1.21 ERA and 27 strikeouts in 29 innings. Chase Sonen is 4-1 with a 2.67 ERA. Sonen has limited opponents to a .154 clip against him while leading the Pumas with two complete game shutouts (Gateman, Cravens, and Mike Burton all have one).

Tyler Buhlig and Shane Zegarac have also done well in



their starts for the Pumas. Buhlig has limited opponents to a .194 clip, while Zegarac has 12 strikeouts in 14 innings. Leading the bullpen for the Pumas is Clay Tingley, the junior closer is 2-0 with six saves and a perfect 0.00 ERA so far. Freshmen Mike Burton and Tim LeBeau have been huge for the Pumas all season. Burton has a .56 ERA and is 2-0, while LeBeau is 1-0 with a 1.80. Steve Letzter has also pitched well for the Pumas. Letzter currently has a 2.08 ERA on the season. As a staff the Pumas give up just under three runs a game.

The Pumas host Bellarmine April 12-13, and that should be a huge weekend. Come out and cheer SJC on to a conference championship on their road to Sauget, Illinois.

LEFT: Sophomore outfielder Victor Valdez (20) steps up to the plate. MIDDLE: Junior Chase Sonen (7) is a force to be reckoned with RIGHT: Sophomore catcher Mike Pericht (24) and senior outfielder Matt Wille (17) are an offensive threat to opposing pitchers. (All photos courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.)

Puma Track Profile: Grant Dean

By Andrew Costello '08, Sports Editor



A two sport athlete, Dean holds the school record for punt return yardage (610) and is second in the long jump (24' 1").
(Photo courtesy of SJC Sports Information.)

- 1. Full Name: Grant Sheffield Dean
- 2. Age: 22
- **3. Favorite football player:** Reggie Bush
- 4. Most memorable concert experience: Yung Joc
- 5. Finish this nursery rhyme: "Hickory Dickory Dock...the mouse ran up the clock."
- 6. Beavers or Ducks: Ducks

- 7. Most embarrassing moment: Walking right into my door frame while talking to my girlfriend
- 8. Trucks or SUVs: SUVs
- 9. Tila Tequila is.... a [strumpet].
- **10. Career plans?:** Grad school for my MBA
- 11. Can you dunk? Used to...about there again!
- **12. Favorite Movie:** Gone in 60 Seconds
- 13. Any siblings?: Britany, Nick, Rachel, Jordan, Spencer, Anna
- 14. What's one thing most people don't know about you: I've been skinny dipping at the lake... twice.
- **15. Favorite home-cooked meal:** Pineapple Chicken
- **16.** Can you play any instruments: Absolutely none; maybe the piano one day.
- 17. Role Model: My father
- 18. Proudest Moment as a Puma: Becoming an All-American at National Championships last year

Track Teams Place Third At Edmonds Invite

By Clark Teuscher, Sports Information Director





LEFT: Shayna
Hesson gives the
baton to Brittney
Bertsch. RIGHT:
Scott Deatherage
competes in the
4x400 meter relay
(Photos courtesy
of Fr. Tim
McFarland,
C.P.P.S..)

The Saint Joseph's College men's and women's track and field teams opened the home portion of the 2008 outdoor season on Saturday, hosting the Gene and Rose Edmonds Invitational at the Michael J. Vallone/Class of 1960 Track and Field Complex.

Both teams placed third in the four-team competition, recording seven first-place finishes between them.

The SJC men won five events and totaled 146 points, while Saginaw Valley State University placed first overall with 236 points. Tadd Hettinger (So., Rochester, IN) won the long jump (22'2 1/2") and triple jump (43'3 1/4"), while Andre Wadley (Fr., Southfield, MI) took first in the 100-meter dash (11.24) and Justin Pugh (So., Kokomo, IN) won the 110-meter hurdles (15.30).

Wadley and Tworek teamed up with Dominique White (So., Fort Wayne, IN/Snider) and Wes Nagel (Fr., Rensselaer, 1N/ Central) to win the 4x100-meter relay (44.26). White placed second in the 100 (11.54), while Tworek was second in the 400-meter hurdles (56.04). The two later joined forces with Hettinger and Scott Deatherage (Sr., St. John, IN/Hanover Central) to place second in the 4x400-meter relay (3:39.39).

The Lady Pumas put up 152 points, as Marian College scored the win with 180. Kim Woodruff (Sr., Michigan City, IN) secured the first of two event victories for SJC by placing first in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (12:38.25). She led a 1-2 finish in the event, as Jenna Helton (Jr., Waterloo, IL) was second (12:46.90).

SJC's 4x100 relay quartet of Natasha Kinsey (Sr., Elkhart, IN/Memorial), Jenny Merkel (Fr., Indianapolis, IN/Roncalli), Shayna Hesson (Fr., Rensselaer, IN/Central), and Brittney Bertsch (Sr., Milton, IN/Cambridge City Lincoln) was victorious in a time of 51.55 seconds, and the 4x400 relay team of Hesson, Helton, Kinsey, and Kara Kerschen (Fr., Fort Collins, CO/Fossil Ridge) was second in 4:39.34.

Also placing second were Kinsey in the long jump (16'3 3/4"), Melissa Buche (Fr., Lowell, IN) in the high jump (5'3 3/4"), and Alexis DeJean (Fr., Indianapolis, IN/Brownsburg) in the discus throw (122'8").

EDITOR'S NOTE: SJC travels to the Depauw University Invite on Saturday. Events begin at noon local time.

Hockey S Golden Boy Returns

By John Wyatt '09, Staff Writer & NHL Analyst

Hockey returned one of its biggest stars this week. Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburg Penguins who was on the injured reserve due to a severe sprained ankle (the hockey equivalent to breaking your neck in football), finally returned Thursday night. He played just over 20 minutes of the 60-minute bout against the NY Islanders. He looked just as strong as he normally does with what even seemed to be an extra pep in his step. But why take so much interest in this player? How about when he was drafted at the age of 18 two years ago; he was the sensation that even the Great One, Wayne Gretzky called amazing. At just 20 years old, he is on track to beat every single player statistic and record in the NHL. Also, almost every goal he scored was a nominee or made Sportscenter's "Top 10 Plays."

With the playoffs fast approaching the race for the final few spots has been heated. Since my last article where only one team had locked up a spot there are now five teams locked in for the playoffs. Those five teams include the Detroit Red Wings, Anaheim Ducks, Pittsburg Penguins, Montreal Canadians, and the San Jose Sharks. All of these teams were picked to do well this season, not just by me but by all the analysts. The one team that truly surprised me was the Montreal Canadians; I honestly did not think they could

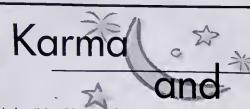
make the playoffs. But having overcome some tough division odds and some remarkable wins over non-conference teams gave them the upper hand to clinch the division.

Only two divisions, one from each conference, have not decided a winner: the Northwest division of the Western Conference and the Southeast Division of the Eastern Conference. These two divisions are in a tight race for the finish line with only a few weeks left to play in the regular season. In the Northwest the bubble teams are only separated my no more than two points with two tied at 86 points a piece. The Southeast looks the same way with every team separated by two points exactly. So with this tight race and only five games left, the last few spots remaining are up for



Sydney Crosby has done miracles for the Pittsburgh Penguins, but can he deliver Lord Stanley's Cup to the franchise?. (Photo from NHL.com player search: Sydney Crosby.)





the Cosmos

Divined by our own Sage Sukey

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) I suppose we are going to pretend that you are doing things all in your own time and that it will all get done? Think again. It's time to consider other's schedules and work with them instead of against them.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19) Peace and tranquility in the home is overrated. You want to spill some blood on the carpet. You have plenty of peroxide and other chemicals that get blood out. Keep practicing those skills of phoniness to lure those unsuspecting.

Your nosiness is unwelcome collecting the data on them.

If you've heard anything

scandalous at the cafeteria,

anything outrageous enough

that you can't keep it to

yourself, then look no further!

Submit your anonymous

comments to

dmm6040@saintjoe.edu today

to let your peers' voices be

heard!

God, why did you get

so fat?!

This story is about a

It will be a drive-thru

marriage.

You went from 69 to

100 last night.

Make sure you wear

your skanky underwear

and I'll bring the vodka

and video camera.

All I heard was getting

an e-mail and saying,

"Oh! I have to do a sex

scene now!"

I score better with

You're an interesting

I have a bun in the

My letters are getting

all twisted up when I

speak.

oven.

acronym.

everyone.

unicorn?

Cancer (June 21-July 21) Matters of the heart and friendship will possibly be corrected if you are open to the repairs. But then again, they say if it ain't broke don't fix it. It's your opinion on whether these matters need fixing that is important.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22)

Life is all about the here and now and not what your past had to do with today. We are not dictacted by what we have done in the past. What we do not like we can change. But, if you like how you are with these things, keep 'em.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21) Blowing off those meetings with others is not the best course of action for you in the coming weeks. You really need to consider other's feelings before you assume you are the only one who matters.

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)

Whatever happened does not really have to hold you back. You can take the opportunity to work through them and change them for the better. Some people do forgive and forget, while other's will hold that grudge. But you can try for the former.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Jealousy was never becoming, but neither is unrequited love. If he or she doesn't dig you, give up and move on. There are so may more fish in the sea if you just lower your standards and look a little harder to find the pearl in the oyster.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20) Advice is simply advice. You don't have to follow it, but it is offered in your best interest. Actually consider it for a change and you may make a decision in that you won't have to work out the karma on.

For once in your life you are behind schedule and are not arriving early. You are unfortun-ately holding everyone else to be perfect still. Give up the harsh judgements. Most people are trying their damndest to please you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17) Looks like you started your week out right. Plowing straight into a mess of work and little to show for it in the end. Lacking sleeping doesn't seem to help this situation. Even though you are scheduling out everything, you are still forgetting to sleep.

Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20)

Judgement and benign comments seem to come from your mouth or the mouths of those around you too often, but you shouldn't continue to proliferate it. Take a step back and think a little before responding.

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for April 3 (219) 866-2222 fountainstonetheaters.com

10,000 B.C.

Fri: 4:20, 6:40, 8:40 (PG-13) Sat: 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:40 Sun: 2:20, 4:30, 6:40 Mon-Thrus: 4:30, 6:40

College Road Trip

Fri: 5:00, 7:10, 8:50 Sat: 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 8:50 Sun: 2:50, 5:00, 7:10 Mon-Thrus: 5:00, 7:10

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who Fri: 4:50, 7:00, 8:50 Sat: 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 8:50

Sun: 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 8:50 Mon-Thrus: 4:50, 7:00

Fri: 4:20, 6:30, 8:40 (PG-13) Sat: 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40 Sun: 2:10, 4:20, 6:30 Mon-Thrus: 4:20, 6:30

Drillbit Taylor

Fri: 4:40, 6:50, 8:45 (PG-13) Sat: 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 8:50 Sun: 2:30, 4:40, 6:50 Mon-Thrus: 4:40, 6:50

> Coming Soon Nim's Island 4/4 & Prom Night

> > 4/11

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for April 3

(219) 866-0086

The Philadel hia Story

Every night at 7:00

www.ritzcinema.net

Coming Soon

The Bucket List

(PG)

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19) Completely Random Facts

At Disneyland, they have hundreds of wild domesticated cats running around the park at night to catch mice.

Giraffes are the only animals born with horns. Both males and females are born with bony knobs on the forehead.

Clinophobia is the fear of beds.

In 1976 Rodrigo's "Guitar Concierto de Aranjuez" was No 1 in the UK for three hours because of a computer error.

In 1970, "MCI" stood for "Microwave Communications Inc." No longer used as an acronym, it now stands alone.

Mae West never said, "Come up and see me sometime." She said, "Come on up sometime and see me."

Dennis the Menace's favorite drink is root beer.

The praying mantis can turn its head 360 degrees

Facts courtesy of www.angelfire.com/ca6/ uselessfacts/

Nota Bene

We are here on Earth to do good things to others. What others are here for, I don't know. W. H. Auden (1907 - 1973)

Health is not simply the absence of sickness. Hannah Green

The thing to remember is that the future comes one day at a time. Dean Acheson

Better to get up late and be wide awake than to get up early and be asleep all day. Anonymous

Looking for Romance?



Find the perfect mate here!

Wristcutter Looking for an OD

Still living in the Afterlife, this depressed boy is looking to find that perfect someone. Prefers the girl who is looking to set things right with the mix up of her overdose. Stay out of the way of the PIC.

neighborhood nymphoma-

niacs while trying to keep

contact with former signifi-

cant other. Appalled to

think any of this may be

wrong and that other's will

shun them for the misstep.

Magic Enthusiast Tapping Mana for Akroma's Blessing

Fantasizing and strategizing the best ways to summon his favorite beauty. Can't decide whether to tap the mana now or later, but the Cursed Rack will definitely get the job done.

Slutty Crazy Ex Wanting to Ruin as Many Lives as **Possible**

Poetically Pathetic Prima Donna Pining for the **Pulchritudinous Pimp**

Will date best friends or the Will sing the audience away but still can't find the words to express her feelings for the man of her dreams. Wants to show herself as the perfect prostitute for her leading man's public and private businesses.

Interested in one of these prospective mates? Please give them a shout out and write them a note to be placed here.

Place your own ad today!

E-mail your information to dmm6040@saintjoe.edu

Poetry Box

Sleepy Smut

It is the most I can do, To stay awake, And provide you with a place, To relax and socialize, And provide you with this smut. We'll just pretend, These half-lidded slurs, Make some bit of sense, In your dull-witted brain. Play Guess Who, And we'll eat the checkers, Before you realize, You have a hand of trump, Or you're the target, Of an obscene riddle.

Please send your own poetry to dmm6040 to be placed here.

Gemini (May 20-June 20)

this week. People may like that you show concern or interest, but you are going a little too far. Leave other people to live their own lives and stop

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